MARVEL COMICS GROUP

KID COLT OUTLAW

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129 JULY

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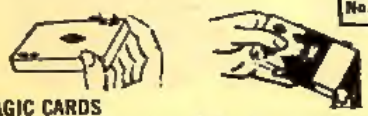

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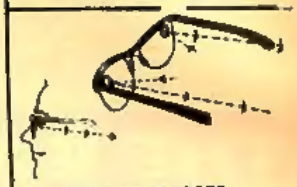

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KID COLT OUTLAW

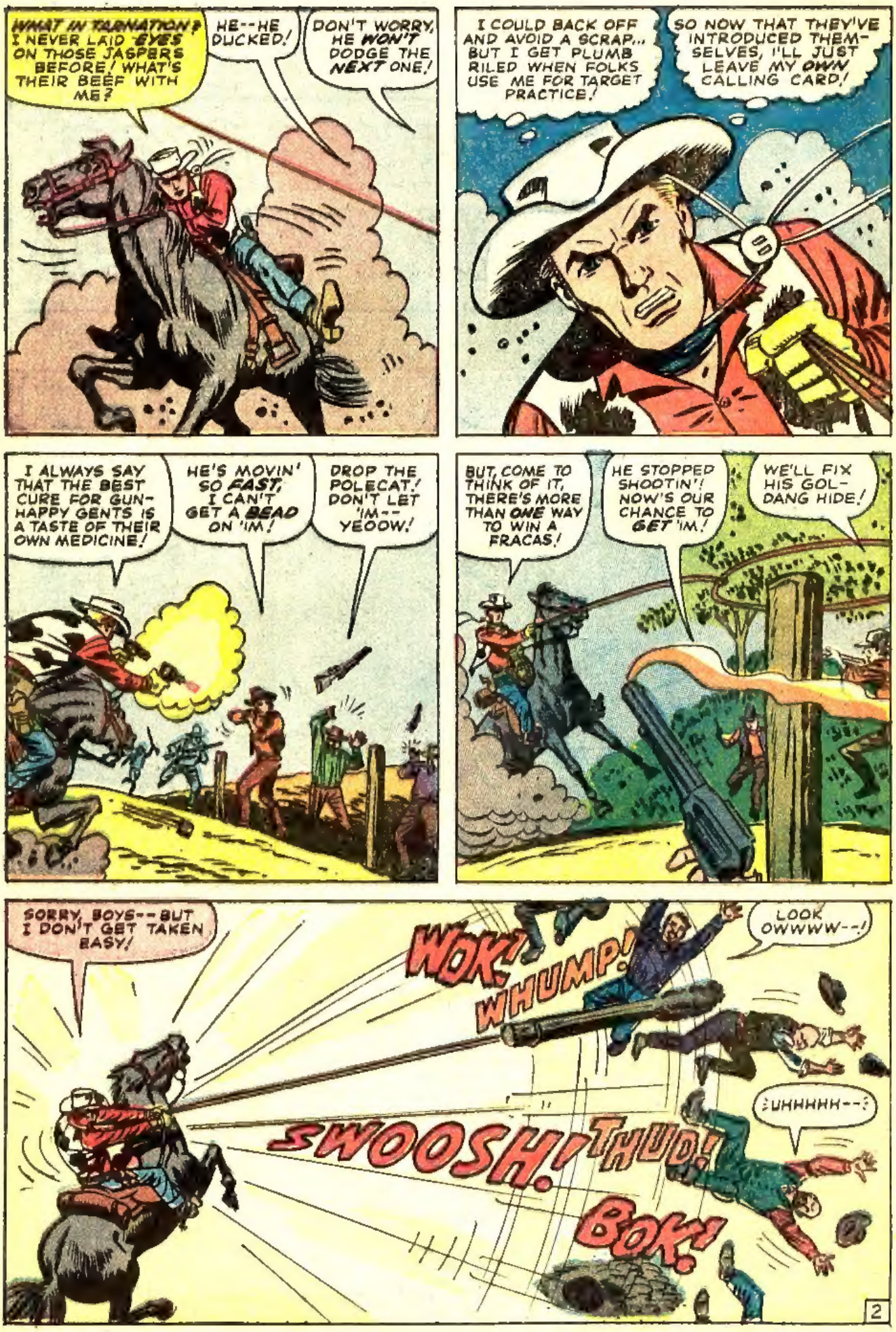
FOR THE ULTIMATE IN SLAM-BANG ACTION, FOLLOW *KID COLT* AS HE RIDES SMACK-DAB INTO...

"THE RANGE WAR OF VENGEANCE VALLEY"

FOR AN OUTLAW, THE TRAIL IS ALWAYS LONG, HARD, AND DANGEROUS! EVEN NOW, AS *KID COLT* PASSES THROUGH AN UNFAMILIAR VALLEY, HE FALLS UNDER THE GAZE OF HOSTILE, SUSPICIOUS EYES...

HERE COMES A STRANGER! HE'S PACKIN' *HARDWARE!*
HE MUST BE ONE OF THE CATTLEMEN'S NEW HIRED GUNS!
IF THE RANCHERS THINK A CHEAP GUNSLICK CAN DRIVE US OFF OUR LAND, THEY'RE *LOCO!*
I'LL BLAST THE VARMINT TO KINGDOM COME!
CLICK!

EDITED BY.....STAN LEE
WRITTEN BY.....LARRY LIEBER
ILLUSTRATED BY..JACK KELLER
LETTERED BY.....ARTIE SIMEK


WHAT IN TARNATION? I NEVER LAID EYES ON THOSE JASPERS BEFORE! WHAT'S THEIR BEEF WITH ME?
HE--HE DUCKED!
DON'T WORRY, HE WON'T DODGE THE NEXT ONE!
I COULD BACK OFF AND AVOID A SCRAP... BUT I GET PLUMB RILED WHEN FOLKS USE ME FOR TARGET PRACTICE!
SO NOW THAT THEY'VE INTRODUCED THEMSELVES, I'LL JUST LEAVE MY OWN CALLING CARD!
I ALWAYS SAY THAT THE BEST CURE FOR GUN-HAPPY GENTS IS A TASTE OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE!
HE'S MOVIN' SO FAST, I CAN'T GET A BEAD ON 'IM!
DROP THE POLECAT! DON'T LET 'IM-- YEOOW!
BUT, COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO WIN A FRACAS!
HE STOPPED SHOOTIN'! NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO GET 'IM!
WE'LL FIX HIS GOL-DANG HIDE!
SORRY, BOYS--BUT I DON'T GET TAKEN EASY!
WOK!
WHUMP!
LOOK OWWWW--!
SWOOSH!
THUD!
UHHHHH--?
BOK!
2

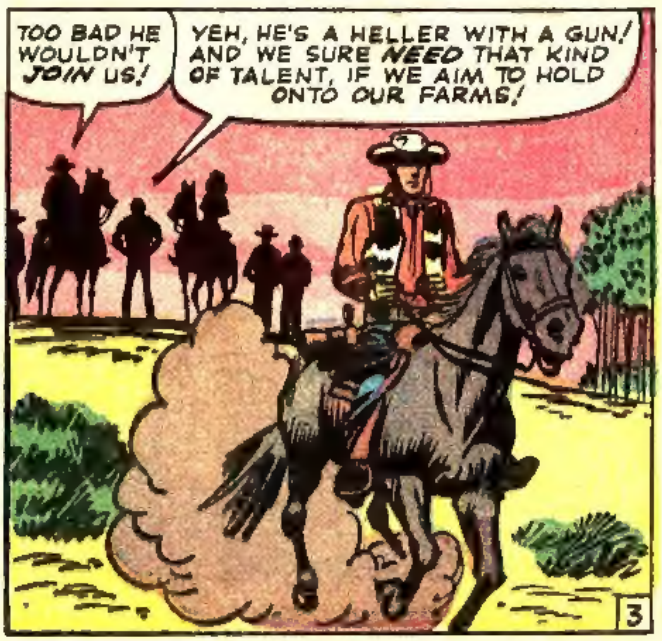
'PEARS LIKE YOU BOYS ARE PLUMB OUT OF FIGHT! WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME NOW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?
YUH-- YUH MEAN YUH DON'T KNOW?
ARE YOU FUNNIN' US, MISTER?
HERE COMES ED DAWSON! HE'LL SPELL IT OUT FOR YUH!

I RECKON I DON'T HAVE TO ASK WHAT HAPPENED HERE! WHO ARE YOU, STRANGER?
THAT'S JUST WHO I AM! A STRANGER! AND I WAS PASSING BY PEACEABLY, WHEN ALL TARNATION BROKE LOOSE!
WE MUSTA MADE A MISTAKE! WE FIGGERED YUH WERE A GUN-SLICK, SENT BY THE CATTLEMEN TO DRIVE US OFF OUR LAND!

SO THAT'S IT! IT WOULD BE JUST MY LUCK TO STUMBLE ONTO A RANGE WAR BETWEEN CATTLEMEN AND FARMERS!
WELL, NOT THAT IT HASN'T BEEN A REAL PLEASURE, BUT IT'S TIME FOR ME TO MOSEY ON!
WAIT--WE CAN SURE USE AN HOMBRE WHO HANDLES HIMSELF THE WAY YOU DO!

SORRY, MISTER, BUT I'VE ALREADY GOT TROUBLES ENOUGH, WITHOUT TAKING ON NEW ONES!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? ARE YOU AFRAID TO FIGHT FOR WHAT'S RIGHT?

NO, MISS, I'M NOT! THE PROBLEM IS THAT JUST ABOUT EVERYONE WHO FIGHTS, THINKS HE'S IN THE RIGHT... AS THE LATE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES SHOWED!
WHY, I'LL BET EVEN THE CATTLEMEN FIGURE THEIRS IS A JUST CAUSE!
AND NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...


TOO BAD HE WOULDN'T JOIN US!
YEH, HE'S A HELLER WITH A GUN! AND WE SURE NEED THAT KIND OF TALENT, IF WE AIM TO HOLD ONTO OUR FARMS!

BUT UNKNOWN TO KID COLT, HE'S NOT RIDING AWAY FROM TROUBLE! HE'S HEADING DEEPER INTO IT...
YUH KNOW WHO THAT RANNY IS?
YEH, HE'S IN THE SAME BUSINESS WE ARE! BUT IT 'PEARS LIKE HE'S HIRED OUT TO THE OTHER SIDE!
LET'S SHOW 'IM WHAT A MISTAKE THAT WAS!
HE'S RIDIN' THIS WAY! WE'LL FIX A TRAP FOR 'IM!
DON'T YANK THE ROPE TILL I GIVE THE WORD! WE CAN'T AFFORD TO MESS THIS UP!
I KNOW! NO ONE GETS A SECOND CRACK AT KID COLT!
NOW!!
IT WORKED!
WHA--!?
HE'S DOWN! RUSH 'IM!
YUH HIT HIM FROM THE FRONT! I'LL GET BEHIND HIM!
4

SWEET DREAMS, HOMBRE!
UHHH--
POW!
NOT A BAD WALLOP! BUT, IF YOU WANT TO TRADE PUNCHES, TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE!
WHAM!
THAT'S ENUFF, COLT! FREEZE!
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE I HAVE MUCH CHOICE!
I--I THINK MUH JAW'S BUSTED!
YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT, RAFE! TAKE COLT'S GUNS!
MIND TELLING ME WHY THE AMBUSH?
YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENUFF!
MOUNT UP! WE'RE RIDING!
AN HOUR LATER, THE TWO GUNSLICKS AND THEIR CAPTIVE REACH THEIR DESTINATION.
MIGHTY BIG SPREAD! WHO OWNS IT?
SILAS WAINWRIGHT! HEAD OF THE CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION! HE'S THE RICHEST RANCHER IN THE VALLEY!
AND HE DON'T LIKE FOR NO ONE TO STEP ON HIS TOES!
YOU MEAN THE HOMESTEADERS!
YEH!
5

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

KIDS! SEND TODAY FOR THIS EXCITING NEW GAME

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NEW! REAL ACTION! NO LOOSE PIECES!
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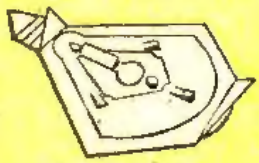

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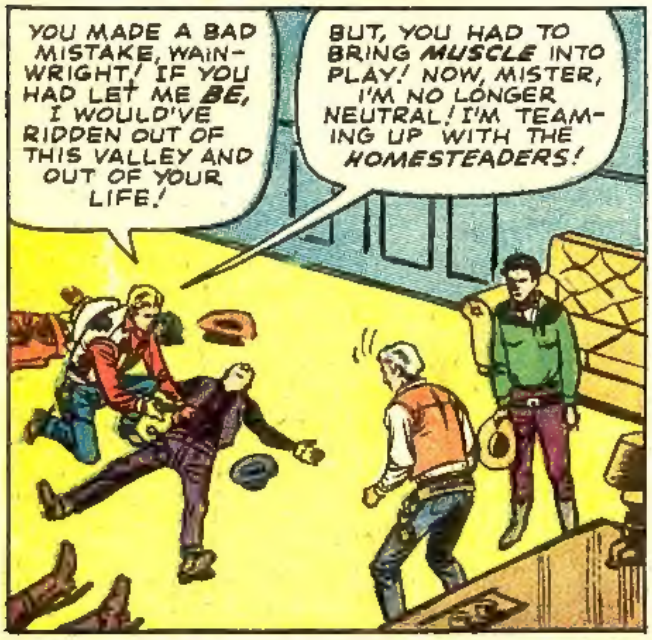
THIS IS KID COLT! WE CAUGHT HIM PALAVERIN' WITH THE FARMERS! THEY MUST'VE SENT FOR HIM!
THEY DIDN'T! I JUST HAPPENED BY!
LISSEN TO 'IM, CRAWFISH! HE KNOWS HE'S ON THE SPOT!
SHUT UP, BLACKIE! I'LL DO THE TALKING!
SURE, WAINWRIGHT, IT'S YOUR SHOW!
EVERY MAN HAS HIS PRICE, COLT! WHAT'S YOURS, FOR COMING OVER TO OUR SIDE?
LISTEN GOOD, MISTER, 'CAUSE I'M GONNA SAY THIS JUST ONCE! MY GUN IS NOT FOR HIRE! IT NEVER HAS BEEN AND IT NEVER WILL BE!
OKAY, YOU SPOKE YOUR PIECE! NOW HEAR ME! WE RANCHERS SETTLED THIS VALLEY WHEN IT WAS A WILDERNESS! WE FOUGHT FAMINE, DISEASE AND HOSTILE INDIANS TO BUILD A CATTLE EMPIRE! --AND NOW THE SQUATTERS HAVE COME, WITH THEIR CURSED BARBED WIRE, FENCING OFF LAND THAT BELONGS TO US!
BUT, DAD, THE HOMESTEADERS ARE ON FREE RANGE THAT THE GOVERNMENT GAVE THEM TO FARM!
THE GOVERNMENT HAD NO RIGHT TO GIVE IT TO THEM! IT WASN'T THE GOVERNMENT THAT TAMED THIS VALLEY! IT WAS US RANCHERS!
BUT THERE'S ENOUGH LAND FOR EVERYONE...
TODAY THERE IS! BUT IF MORE FARMERS COME TOMORROW, THERE WON'T BE!
THAT'S WHY WE'VE GOT TO SHOW THE SODBUSTERS WE MEAN BUSINESS! WE'VE GOT TO DRIVE THEM FROM THE VALLEY!
AND TO DO IT, WE NEED ALL THE GUNS WE CAN GET! ARE YOU WITH US, COLT?
I ALREADY GAVE YOU MY ANSWER!
SURE YUH DID, BUT IT WASN'T THE RIGHT ONE! NOW ME--I'M REAL EXPERT AT MAKIN' STUBBORN JASPERS CHANGE THEIR MINDS!
6

GRAB MISTUH COLT, BOYS!
RIGHT, BOSS!
HE AINT EVEN RESISTIN'! HE KNOWS IT'S USELESS!
YOU'RE LIVING IN A FOOL'S PARADISE, FRIEND!

WHATTA YUH MEAN?
WHO CARES WHUT HE MEANS?! I'M GONNA CLOBBER 'IM!
THAT'S IT, BOYS... HOLD ME TIGHT! I NEED THE LEVERAGE!
LEVERAGE?? WHUT FER??

FOR THIS!!
UUHHHHH--

AND NOW THAT YOU TWO HAVE SERVED YOUR PURPOSE...
THUDD!


YOU MADE A BAD MISTAKE, WAINWRIGHT! IF YOU HAD LET ME BE, I WOULD'VE RIDDEN OUT OF THIS VALLEY AND OUT OF YOUR LIFE!
BUT, YOU HAD TO BRING MUSCLE INTO PLAY! NOW, MISTER, I'M NO LONGER NEUTRAL! I'M TEAMING UP WITH THE HOMESTEADERS!

I THOUGHT YOUR GUN WASN'T FOR HIRE!
IT ISN'T! I'M DOING THIS FOR PLEASURE-- NOT BUSINESS!
WHAT KIND OF A FOOL WOULD RISK HIS NECK WITHOUT GETTING PAID FOR IT?
A KIND OF FOOL THAT YOU'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND! OR MAYBE IT'S MORE THAN THAT...

...MAYBE I JUST DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF INNOCENT FOLKS DRIVEN OFF THEIR FARMS BY THE RUTHLESS HIRED GUNS OF GREEDY MEN!
IN ANY CASE, IF IT'S A RANGE WAR YOU WANT, I'LL SEE THAT YOU GET IT IN SPADES!
DAD, RECONSIDER! DON'T ATTACK THE HOMESTEADERS! DON'T UNLEASH SOMETHING THAT YOU'LL FOREVER REGRET!
STOP SNIVELING, BOY! IT TOOK GUTS TO BUILD THIS EMPIRE... AND IT'LL TAKE GUTS TO KEEP IT!
AND SO, THE FARMERS, PITTED AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS, RECEIVE AN UNEXPECTED ALLY!
WE'RE RIGHT GLAD TO HAVE YOU WITH US!
YEH, YOUR GUNS WILL COME IN MIGHTY HANDY WHEN THE CATTLEMEN ATTACK!
WHAT ABOUT TOM WAINWRIGHT? WILL HE RIDE AGAINST US, TOO?
I DON'T KNOW! HE SEEMED MORE REASONABLE THAN THE OTHERS, BUT WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN...
OF COURSE HE'LL FIGHT US! HE'S HIS FATHER'S SON, AINT HE?
YEH, THEY'RE BOTH OF THE SAME CUT!
THAT NIGHT, THE HOMESTEADERS KEEP A TENSE WATCH OVER THEIR FARMS!
THE RANCHERS MOST LIKELY WON'T ATTACK TILL MORNING! BUT, THERE'S NO SENSE TAKING CHANCES! WAIT-- WHAT'S THAT SOUND?!
ROOOSH!
THERE'S SOMEONE MOVING OUT THERE IN THE DARKNESS.. AND I'LL BET MY BOOTS HE'S NO SODBUSTER!
8

I DON'T LIKE SNEAK ATTACKS, FRIEND! HOW ABOUT YOU?
UHHHH--
WELL, IF IT ISN'T MISTER WAINWRIGHT'S SON AND HEIR, DOING HIS PA'S DIRTY WORK!
DON'T BE A FOOL!
LET HIM ALONE!
I KNEW THAT TOM WOULDN'T FIGHT US! I JUST KNEW IT!!
NOT FIGHT--? THEN WHAT'S HE DOING HERE??
I CAME TO BE WITH LYDIA... TO STAND BY HER SIDE THROUGHOUT THIS SENSELESS RANGE WAR! WHATEVER THE DANGERS, WE'LL FACE THEM TOGETHER!
THAT SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE LOVE TO ME!
TOM AND I ARE IN LOVE! BUT WE WERE AFRAID TO TELL OUR FEUDING FAMILIES / WE CONCEALED OUR FEELINGS-- MET SECRETLY--
BUT NOW IT'S TOO LATE FOR SECRECY!
I WON'T ARGUE THAT ONE! OKAY, GO BREAK THE HAPPY NEWS TO LYDIA'S PA...
...WHILE I KEEP WATCH HERE, IN CASE THE NIGHT HOLDS SOMETHING MORE DANGEROUS THAN ROMANCE!
9

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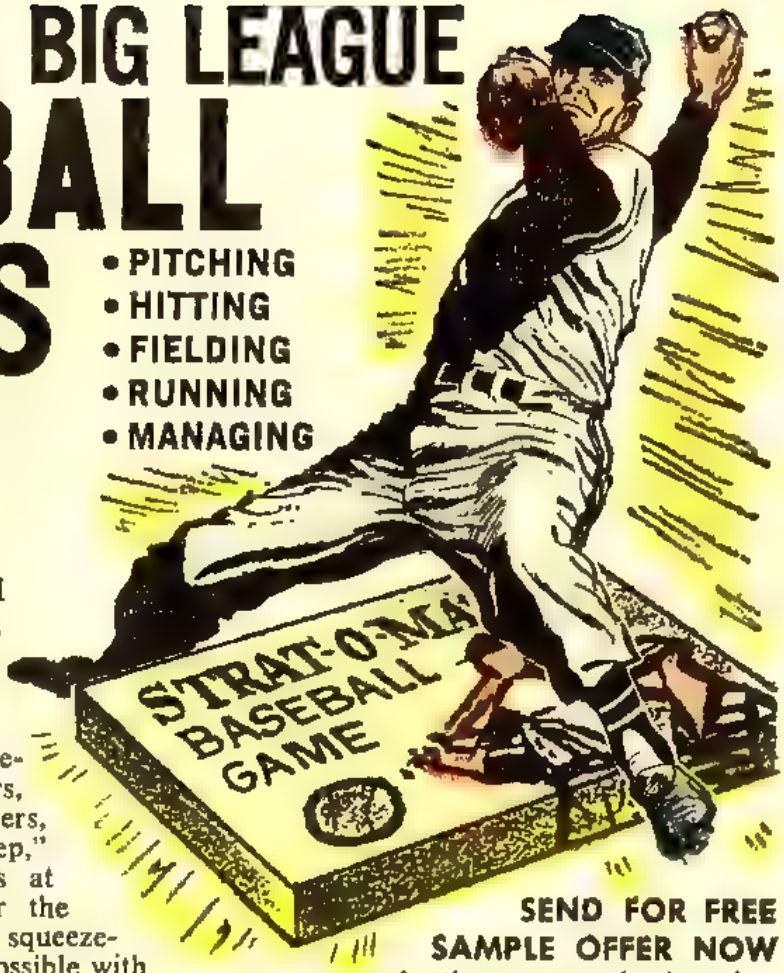
PLAY 1966 BIG LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES

- PITCHING
- HITTING
- FIELDING
- RUNNING
- MANAGING



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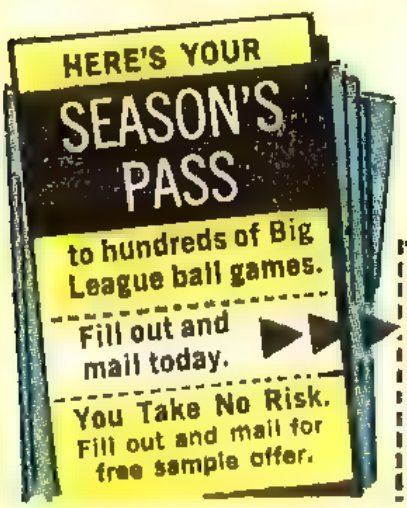
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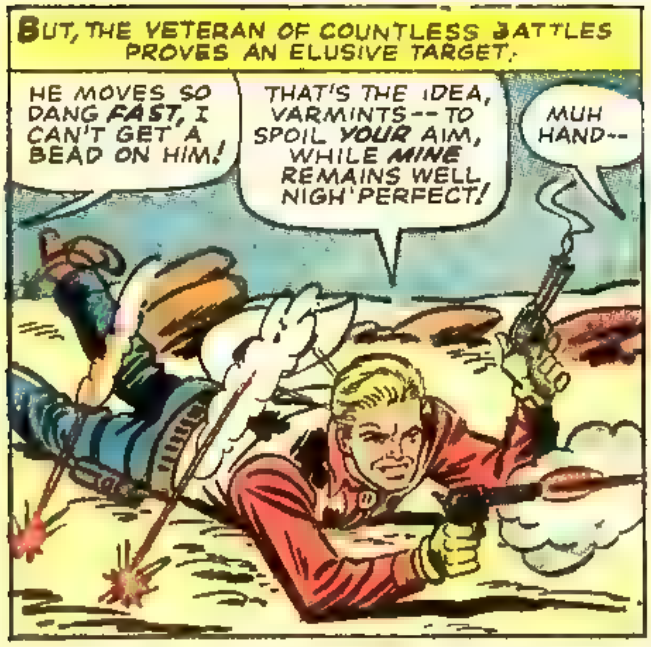
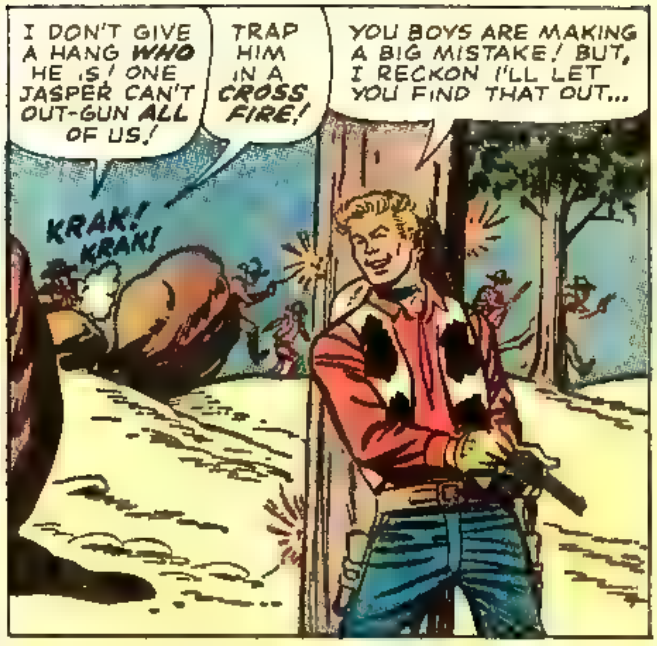
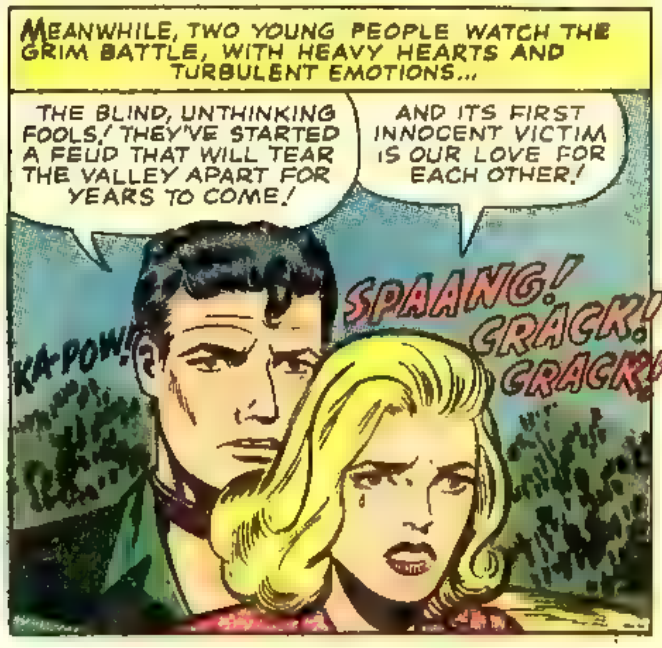
BUT, THE HOURS PASS WITHOUT INCIDENT, UNTIL AT DAYBREAK...
BREAK OUT THE RIFLES! WE'RE GONNA RIDE ON THE SODBUSTERS!
TOM'S NOWHERE AROUND! HE MUST'VE CLEARED OUT DURING THE NIGHT!
I RECKON YORE BOY HAS NO STOMACH FOR FIGHTIN'!
SHUT YOUR FACE! MUH SON AINT NO YELLA-BELLY! IT'S JUST THAT HE SEES THINGS DIFFERENT FROM ME--LIKE HIS MA DID!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM / I GUESS I NEVER WILL!
THE OTHER RANCHERS ARE HERE--ARMED TO THE TEETH AND RARIN' TO GO!
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S RIDE!!
HEY, THERE'S WAINWRIGHT NOW!
C'MON, SILAS--WE'RE GONNA RUN THE VARMINTS OUTTA THE VALLEY!
AND SO, NOT FOR THE FIRST TIME, NOR UNFORTUNATELY FOR THE LAST, ANGRY MEN AND THEIR HIRED GUNS RIDE OFF TO BATTLE... TRAMPLING THE LAW'S RESTRAINTS BENEATH GALLOPING HOOFBEATS!
YESTERDAY, THIS WAS ALL CATTLE COUNTRY! AND, BY TOMORROW, IT WILL BE AGAIN!
YAA-HOO!
THEN, WHEN THE RANCHERS REACH THEIR FIRST OBSTACLE...
A SQUATTER'S FENCE!
I HATE THE SIGHT OF BARBED WIRE!
TEAR IT DOWN!
10

LIKE AN ARMY OF VENGEANCE, THE RANCHERS RIDE ACROSS THE LAND, DESTROYING EVERY FENCE IN THEIR PATH... UNTIL THEY COME UPON THEIR ENEMY, ARMED AND OF EQUAL DETERMINATION!
GO BACK! THIS IS OUR LAND! YOU'RE TRESPASSING!
WE'RE GONNA DO A HEAP MORE'N THAT, SODBUSTER!
SPREAD OUT! TAKE COVER!
AND, A GRIM MOMENT LATER, THE PENT-UP HATE OF ANGRY MEN EXPLODES INTO BLAZING GUNFIRE!
THE SQUATTERS DON'T KNOW BEANS ABOUT GUNPLAY!
IT'LL BE AN EASY WIN!
KRAK!
KRAK!
KA-POW
KRAK!
SFAT!
SFAT!
BUT, IN THE CRUCIBLE OF BATTLE, MEN LEARN QUICKLY... ESPECIALLY WITH THE RIGHT TEACHER!
SIMMONS, KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN!
SFAT!
BLAKE, DON'T JERK THE TRIGGER-- SQUEEZE IT!
KA-POW!
KRAK!
KA-POW!
SFAT!
LIKE THIS, MISTUH COLT?
YEE--OWWW!
LIKE THAT, MISTUH BLAKE!
KA-POW!
THE SODBUSTERS ARE PUTTIN' UP A BETTER FIGHT THAN I FIGGERED ON!
CONCENTRATE YOUR FIRE ON KID COLT! HE'S THEIR BEST GUN! IF HE GOES DOWN, THE OTHERS WILL KNOW THEY HAVEN'T A CHANCE!


BUT, THE VETERAN OF COUNTLESS BATTLES PROVES AN ELUSIVE TARGET.
HE MOVES SO DANG FAST, I CAN'T GET A BEAD ON HIM!
THAT'S THE IDEA, VARMINTS -- TO SPOIL YOUR AIM, WHILE MINE REMAINS WELL NIGH PERFECT!
MUH HAND--


I DON'T GIVE A HANG WHO HE IS! ONE JASPER CAN'T OUT-GUN ALL OF US!
TRAP HIM IN A CROSS FIRE!
YOU BOYS ARE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE! BUT, I RECKON I'LL LET YOU FIND THAT OUT...
KRAK! KRAK!

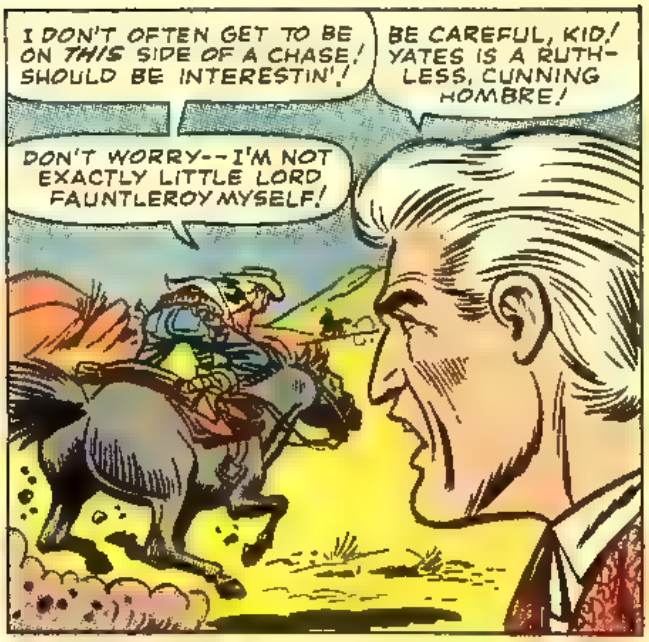
...FOR YOURSELVES!
I'M HIT--
UHHH--


MEANWHILE, TWO YOUNG PEOPLE WATCH THE GRIM BATTLE, WITH HEAVY HEARTS AND TURBULENT EMOTIONS...
THE BLIND, UNTHINKING FOOLS! THEY'VE STARTED A FEUD THAT WILL TEAR THE VALLEY APART FOR YEARS TO COME!
AND ITS FIRST INNOCENT VICTIM IS OUR LOVE FOR EACH OTHER!
KA-POW!
SPAANG! CRACK! CRACK!

I CAN'T LET IT CONTINUE! I MUST STOP THEM! I MUST MAKE THEM LISTEN TO REASON!
TOM! COME BACK! THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO! YOU'LL BE KILLED!

BUT, LYDIA DAWSON'S CRIES ARE DROWNED IN THE DIN OF BATTLE, AS HER MAN RUNS WITH SINGLE-MINDED PURPOSE INTO THE RANGE WAR...
STOP! STOP THIS SENSELESS SLAUGHTER!
IT'S TOM WAINWRIGHT!
HE MUST BE LOCO TO COME CHARGING INTO THE LINE OF FIRE!
TOM, DON'T! GET BACK!
FOR A BRIEF MOMENT, EVERYBODY HOLDS HIS FIRE, AS TOM, IN THE MIDST OF THE FRAY, SHOUTS TO THEM--PLEADS WITH THEM!
NO! LISTEN TO ME! ALL OF YOU! YOU'RE MAKING A TRAGIC MISTAKE!
YOU CAN'T SETTLE YOUR DISPUTE BY FIGHTING! YOU'LL JUST MAKE THINGS WORSE!
THAT'S YELLA-BELLY TALK...
...AND I DON'T AIM TO LISSEN TO IT!
MUH SON! MUH SON'S BEEN HIT!
WHO FIRED THAT SHOT?
IT WAS BLACKIE YATES!
CRACK!
OH, NO-- -SOB!-
YOU FOOLS! HE TRIED TO HELP YOU--TO BRING YOU TO YOUR SENSES! AND NOW, IN YOUR INSANE THIRST FOR REVENGE, YOU'VE KILLED HIM!
SIMMER DOWN, GAL! HE AINT DEAD--JUST WOUNDED!
YOU--YOU'RE A DAWSON! WHY SHOULD YOU CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO MUH SON??
I CARE BECAUSE TOM AND I ARE IN LOVE! BUT, IT'S A LOVE THAT CAN'T SURVIVE IN A VALLEY OF HATE!
YOU... AND TOM?! I-- I NEVER KNEW! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND? WHAT HAVE I DONE?!
THE FRACAS IS OVER! I BETTER GIT WHILE I STILL CAN!
HEY! YATES IS HIGH-TAILIN' IT!
13

HE MUSTN'T ESCAPE! HE GUNNED DOWN MUH SON! HE'S GOTTA PAY FOR IT!
YER TOO LATE! YOU'LL NEVER CATCH BLACKIE NOW! HIS HOSS CAN OUTRUN ANYTHING IN THE TERRITORY!
MAYBE HE JUST NEVER HAD THE RIGHT COMPETITION!
HERE, STEEL! TWEEEET!


I DON'T OFTEN GET TO BE ON THIS SIDE OF A CHASE! SHOULD BE INTERESTIN'!
BE CAREFUL, KID! YATES IS A RUTHLESS, CUNNING HOMBRE!
DON'T WORRY--I'M NOT EXACTLY LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY MYSELF!

COLT'S COMIN' AFTER ME! HE WANTS TO TANGLE! THAT SUITS ME FINE! I'VE A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH 'IM!
HE'S HEADING UP INTO THE HILLS! HE MUST AIM TO HIDE FROM ME! BUT WHEREVER HE HOLES UP, I'LL FLUSH HIM OUT!
BUT I'LL PICK THE PLACE FER THE SHOWDOWN!

THIS OLD MINE IS JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED! FRIEND COLT DON T KNOW IT, BUT HE'S GONNA RIDE INTO AN AMBUSH!
SKEDADDLE, HOSS--OUTTA SIGHT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE.

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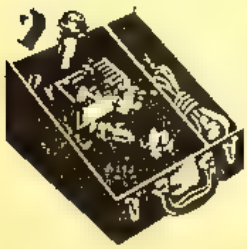

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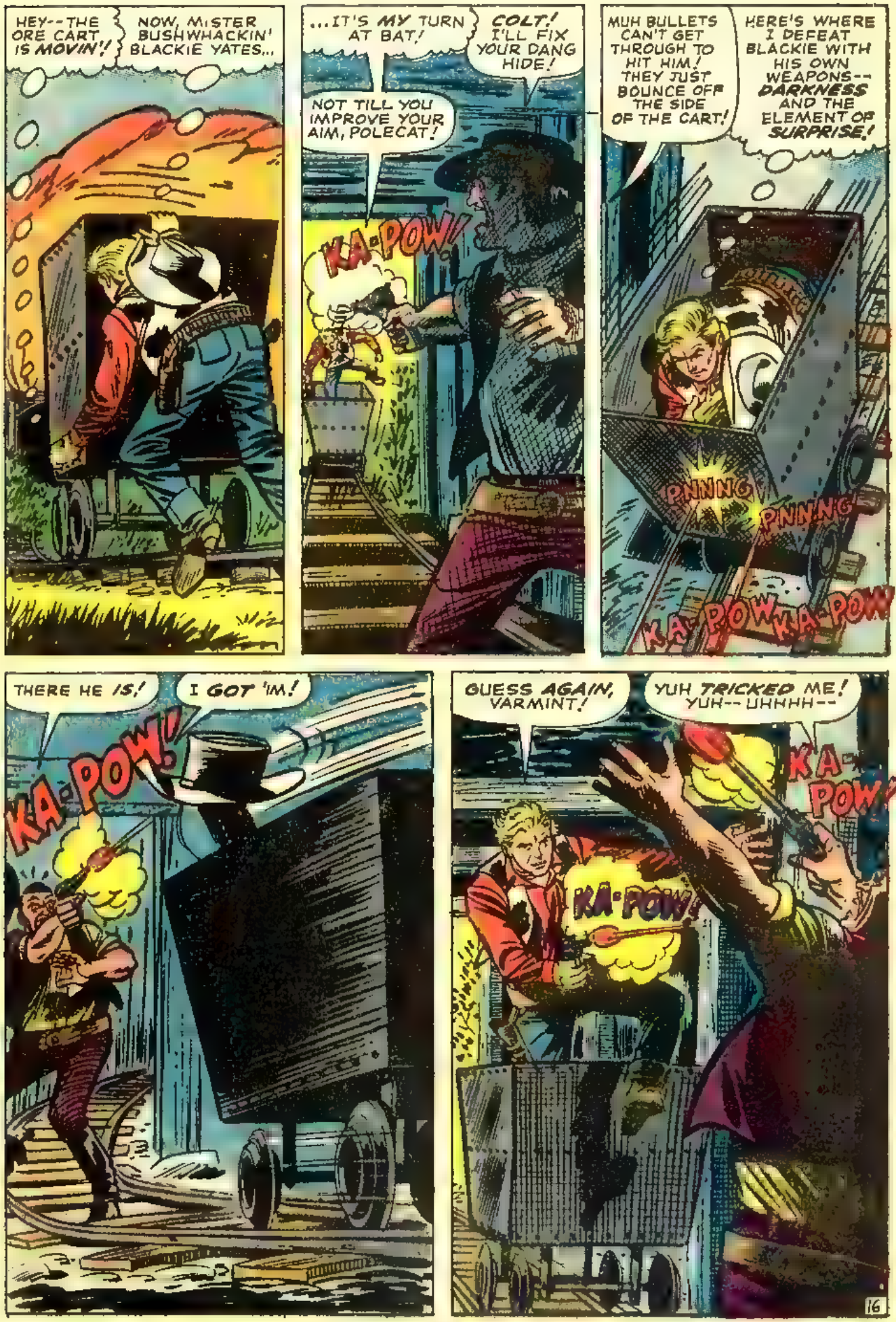
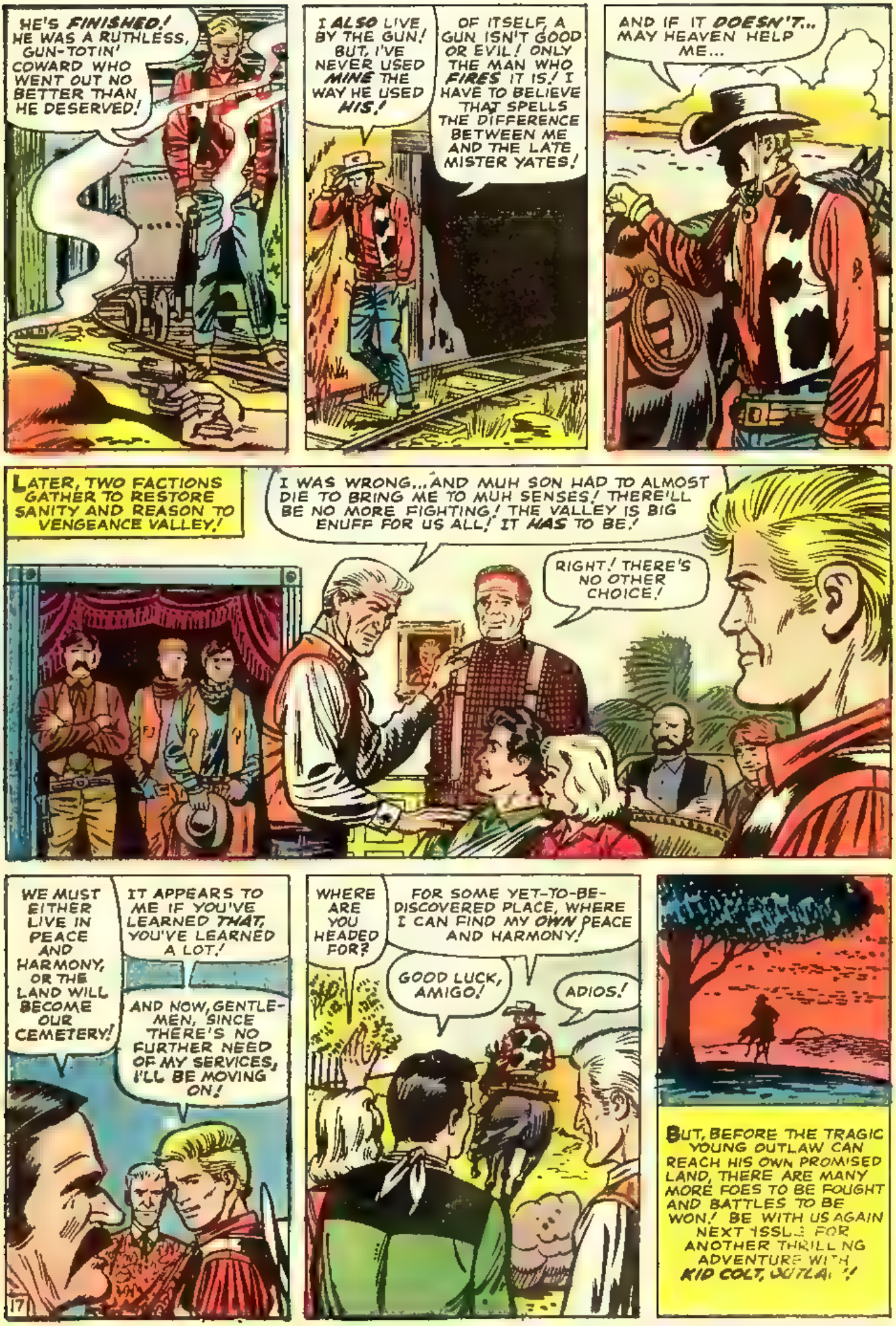
BUT, AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, A NEARBY SNAKE STARTLES BLACKIE'S HORSE, CAUSING THE ANIMAL TO WHINNY A SPLIT-SECOND BEFORE HIS MASTER FIRES!
NNEEIIIIGH!
IT'S YATES' HOSS-- UNHHHH--
BLAST IT! MUH NAG WARNED COLT! HE MOVED! I ONLY WINGED 'IM!
KA-POW!
I SHOULD'VE FIGURED YATES FOR AN AMBUSH! BUT HE WON'T GET A SECOND TRY AT A SITTING DUCK!
HE'S TAKIN' COVER! I MISSED MUH CHANCE!
THE SHOT CAME FROM INSIDE THE MINE! IF I TRY TO RUSH YATES, HE'LL DROP ME BEFORE I CAN REACH THE ENTRANCE!
THERE'S JUST ONE WAY TO PLAY THIS HAND!
I NEED A DECOY...
...AND THIS IRON BUGGY!
I CAN'T SEE 'IM... BUT I KNOW HE'S OUT THERE SOMEWHERE WAITIN' FER ME!
I'LL HAFTA HOLE UP HERE TILL NIGHT... THEN MAKE MY GET-AWAY IN THE DARK!
15


HEY--THE ORE CART IS MOVIN'!
NOW, MISTER BUSHWHACKIN' BLACKIE YATES...
...IT'S MY TURN AT BAT!
COLT! I'LL FIX YOUR DANG HIDE!
NOT TILL YOU IMPROVE YOUR AIM, POLECAT!
KA-POW!
MUH BULLETS CAN'T GET THROUGH TO HIT HIM! THEY JUST BOUNCE OFF THE SIDE OF THE CART!
HERE'S WHERE I DEFEAT BLACKIE WITH HIS OWN WEAPONS-- DARKNESS AND THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE!
PNNNG
PNNNG
KA-POW
KA-POW
THERE HE IS!
I GOT 'IM!
KA-POW!
GUESS AGAIN, VARMINT!
YUH TRICKED ME! YUH--UHHHH--
KA-POW!
KA-POW!
16


HE'S FINISHED! HE WAS A RUTHLESS, GUN-TOTIN' COWARD WHO WENT OUT NO BETTER THAN HE DESERVED!
I ALSO LIVE BY THE GUN! BUT, I'VE NEVER USED MINE THE WAY HE USED HIS!
OF ITSELF, A GUN ISN'T GOOD OR EVIL! ONLY THE MAN WHO FIRES IT IS! I HAVE TO BELIEVE THAT SPELLS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ME AND THE LATE MISTER YATES!
AND IF IT DOESN'T... MAY HEAVEN HELP ME...
LATER, TWO FACTIONS GATHER TO RESTORE SANITY AND REASON TO VENGEANCE VALLEY!
I WAS WRONG... AND MUH SON HAD TO ALMOST DIE TO BRING ME TO MUH SENSES! THERE'LL BE NO MORE FIGHTING! THE VALLEY IS BIG ENUFF FOR US ALL! IT HAS TO BE!
RIGHT! THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE!
WE MUST EITHER LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY, OR THE LAND WILL BECOME OUR CEMETERY!
IT APPEARS TO ME IF YOU'VE LEARNED THAT, YOU'VE LEARNED A LOT!
AND NOW, GENTLEMEN, SINCE THERE'S NO FURTHER NEED OF MY SERVICES, I'LL BE MOVING ON!
WHERE ARE YOU HEADED FOR?
FOR SOME YET-TO-BE-DISCOVERED PLACE, WHERE I CAN FIND MY OWN PEACE AND HARMONY!
GOOD LUCK, AMIGO!
ADIOS!
BUT, BEFORE THE TRAGIC YOUNG OUTLAW CAN REACH HIS OWN PROMISED LAND, THERE ARE MANY MORE FOES TO BE FOUGHT AND BATTLES TO BE WON! BE WITH US AGAIN NEXT ISSUE FOR ANOTHER THRILLING ADVENTURE WITH KID COLT, OUTLAW!
17

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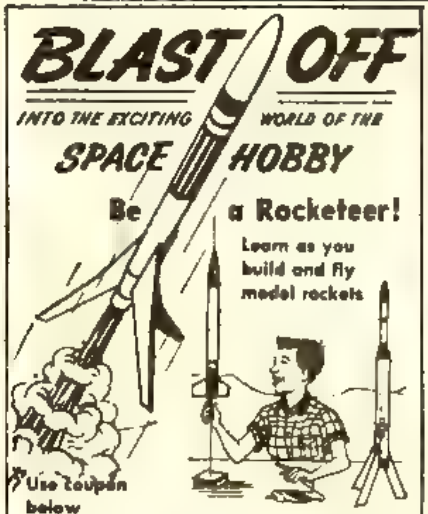

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BULLETIN! It's hail and farewell to sturdy STEVE DITKO! SPIDER-MAN #38 and STRANGE TALES #146 (both now on sale) will mark his final appearances in any Marvel mags! (Except for the numerous reprints you'll find in our king-size issues.) Steve recently told us he was leaving, for personal reasons. After all these years, we're sorry to see him go, and we wish the talented guy success with his future endeavors. As for his replacement, all we can say is—since someone else has to draw Spidey, thank Asgard that jazzy JOHNNY ROMITA has returned to the fold! Not only has he captured the spirit, the excitement, and the indefinable uniqueness that have made the ol' web-spinner one of literature's most sensational successes, but Johnny has actually managed to add a new dimension—the attribute of sheer artistic glamor which, we predict, will lift Spidey to still greater heights of Marvel magnificence! (And, needless to say, smilin' STAN will continue to turn out the type of stories which no one has yet been able to hold a candle to!) As for Dr. Strange, at the time of this writing, we still haven't chosen a new artist, but we've had a whole kaboodle of volunteers from among our loyal bullpeners, so just wait'n see, pussycat!

BULLETIN! We never realized the whole whacky, wonderful world was so hungry for our rapturous reprints! MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS are being gobbled up as fast as we can turn them out—and the same goes for its new sister mag (or, brother mag if you prefer), MARVEL TALES! But, here's the stop-the-presses part of our bulletin—we're making FANTASY MASTERPIECES a king-size mag, too—and, besides featuring our greatest and nuttiest monster tales, it will star—hold your breath, now—the earliest tales of CAPTAIN AMERICA—*from* mighty Marvel's golden era! The first one's on sale now—or it was! Once this notice appears in print, those nearly-priceless copies will last about as long as a Yancy Streeter at the Thing's birthday party. And we kid thee not!

BULLETIN! Is our collective face red! We printed an announcement recently about the fact that the famous college mag, the PELICAN, was doing a satire on us! But, we referred to it as the U.C.L.A. PELICAN, when anybody who is anybody (except US) would know that we SHOULD have said the University of California at Berkeley PELICAN! (Or, is it the other way around? Hooo boy!) Anyway, forgive us Berkeleyites, and many thanks for the kind things you had to say—things such as "Seekers of wisdom and truth will accept nothing less than MARVEL COMICS—Marvel mags sell faster than Unguentine in a leper colony. They are viciously sought out, purchased, stolen, and hoarded by a rapidly-growing number of students who have found Marvel to be the first real revolution in literature!—Sartre, Camus, Marx, and Dostoevsky [are] being crowded off intellectual bookshelves to make way for SPIDER-MAN and the HULK—" Etc. etc. etc. We're too modest (as everyone knows) to print any more! But, we promise you this, lads—we'll be sure to get the name of your ubiquitous University correct next time—as soon as someone tells us what it really is!

BULLETIN! Here's one of our most sensational items yet! By the time your sparkling little eyes can devour these wondrous words, Lancer Books, one of America's top paperback book publishers will be featuring two of our Marvel-ous characters—in paperback book form! Whatever you do, don't miss 'em! They're on sale now! One book features the FANTASTIC FOUR, and the other, SPIDER-MAN! How about THAT!

BULLETIN! There are so many exciting things perking at Marvel, we don't know what to tell you first! Here are a few choice items—to wit—The fabulous FANTASTIC FOUR introduces a brand new character in Ish #52 called the Black Panther! We expect the largest mail reaction of the year after you've met him!—DAREDEVIL #s 16 and 17 have been guest starring Spidey—so don't miss your chance to get a sneak preview of how Ringading Romita can handle ol' Web-Head!—Everyone's talking about the reappearance of Giant-Man in the AVENGERS . . . and of his name (Goliath) and his new costume (like Wow!)—Stan and Jack are going batty trying to keep track of the Greek gods whom they've introduced in the new THOR series, along with the Norse gods! For the most celestial saga around, don't dare miss it!—Have you seen Bill Everett's version of the Hulk yet? It's created a heap of talk in fandom and you'll be reading the various comments in our letters pages starting next month! Big Bill is one of our old-time, all-time greats and the master still hasn't lost his titanic touch!

BULLETIN! Have you seen those little mini-books" on sale in vending machines throughout the country? They're about the size of a postage stamp, and more fun than Dr. Doom on a pogo stick! Anyway, early in April you'll be seeing over TEN MILLION new ones—called MARVEL MINI BOOKS—featuring Spidey, Thor, Captain America, the Hulk, Sgt. Fury, and Millie the Model! Watch for them—they're millions more pieces of proof that mighty Marvel is taking over the world—and you're in on the coup right along with us!

BULLETIN! We haven't had much time to mention it lately, but the ol' MERRY MARVEL MARCHING SOCIETY has so many thousands of members now that we're almost running out of numbers for the flood of new applications that keep pouring in! Remember, every Merry Marcher receives a special surprise bulletin in the mail a couple of times yearly, plus all sorts of other goodies too numerous (and too ridiculous) to mention here! And, before we forget, a mighty Marvel salute to amazin' ART ROBERTS, the sensational, swingin' Dee Jay of Chicago's wild and wondrous radio station WLS, for the great job he's been doing in recruiting Merry Marchers for us among his millions of listeners! (And, a personal aside to Art from Stan: Peter Fugitive is the coolest man!)

THE WRAP-UP! We received a letter which we feel is of such general appeal to Marvelites everywhere that we're printing a portion of it in this space rather than on a letters page. Here goes:

Dear Stan,

Before you let yourself become entangled in a bitter and senseless tirade against your major competitor, I ask you to stop and consider all aspects of your competition. True, the both of you are marketing the same product—but your treatment of the stories and problems you choose to bring up is startlingly different—and you need not resort to needling and name-calling. To see you, who at times publish such superior material, accuse the other of using your old material is certainly a comedown from when you refused to acknowledge them as competition! It is we, the readers, who suffer from your present course of unpleasant propaganda. I remain one of your most loyal fans. Best wishes,

Mike Murano, 38 Lynn St.,
Peabody, Mass. 01960

Actually, we've never tried to single out any one competitor for criticism. By BRAND ECHH we really mean *all* of them! But, that's besides the point. What we want to know is—do most of you agree with Mike? If so, we won't mention Brand Echh again. Personally, we get a kick out of the mutual letter-col needling that goes on—but as always, our job is to please YOU! So, clue us in, frantic ones—and we'll announce your decision as soon as all the mail is in. Till next month then, FACE FRONT—you never know when Irving Forbush may drop in! 'Nuff said!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #52: The first appearance of the sensational, spectacular Black Panther!

SPIDER-MAN #38: Once again Spidey battles a brand new, nuttier-than-ever super villain!

AVENGERS #29: Wow! Look who's back! Power Man! The Black Widow! And the Swordsman!

X-MEN #21: The secret of Lucifer, revealed at last as the X-Men face Dominus!

DAREDEVIL #17: The wrap-up of the season's greatest fight—D.D. vs Spidey! It's a blast!

THOR #129: Hercules! Pluto! Zeus! Odin! Thor! The Netherworld! How can we do it all for 12¢?

STRANGE TALES #146: Fury tackles the mystery of "Them"! Dr. Strange meets Eternity again!

SUSPENSE #79: Iron Man faces disaster! Captain America takes the Red Skull! Hooo boy!

ASTONISH #81: Sub-Mariner goes mad! As for the Hulk, he's fighting everyone in sight!

SGT. FURY #31: Captain Sawyer gets into action at last! It's a bombshell!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #3: Now giant-sized! Featuring Captain America from Marvel's Golden Age!

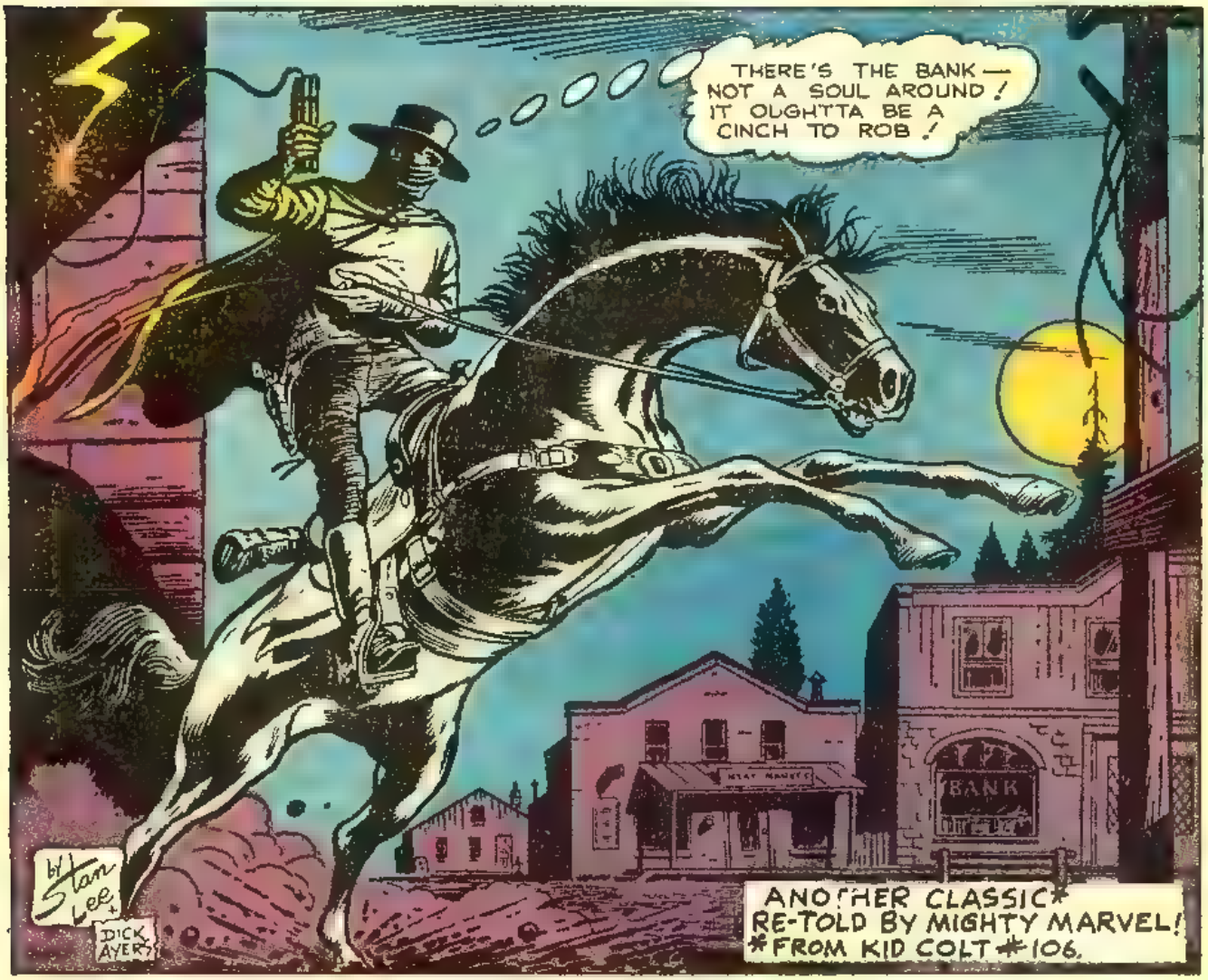
MARVEL TALES #3: How's this for a parade—Spider-Man! Thor! Ant-Man! And the Human Torch!

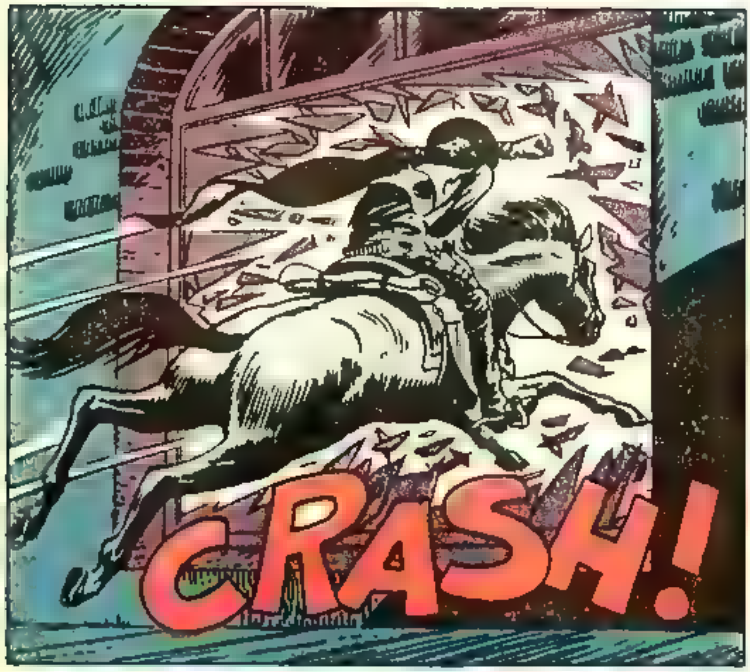
COLLECTOR'S ITEM CLASSICS #3: Merely the greatest—Fantastic Four! The Hulk! Iron Man! Dr. Strange! And—The Watcher!

Let's meet 26 more M.M.M.S. members!

Kenneth Murphy, Brentwood, N.Y.
Marshall Rosenthal, U. City, Mo.
Tom Traphagan, Syracuse, N.Y.
Mark Evans, Buffalo, N.Y.
Fred Coleman, Bronx, N.Y.
Bruce Cardozo, Bronx, N.Y.
Mike Beerbower, Muncie, Ind.
Jeb Brooks, Huntsville, Tex.
Jonathan Ebin, New York, N.Y.
Robert Christian, Jacksonville, Fla.
David Pradey, Berkeley, Cal.
Larry Carlisle, Norfolk, Va.
Danny Allen, Arlington, Tex.
Michael Cunningham, Wichita, Kans.
Thomas E. Freeman, Indianapolis, Ind.
Walter Logan, Watertown, Mass.
Keith Haislop, Springfield, Mass.
John Riecy, Lexington, Mass.
John Heagney, Brentwood, N.Y.
Bruce Meier, Shubuta, Miss.
Nicholas Hadley, New York, N.Y.
David Bells, Shreveport, La.
Wade Bruce, Centerville, Ohio
Dennis Cohen, Boston, Mass.
John Basarab, Perth Amboy, N. J.
Susan Basarab, Perth Amboy, N. J.

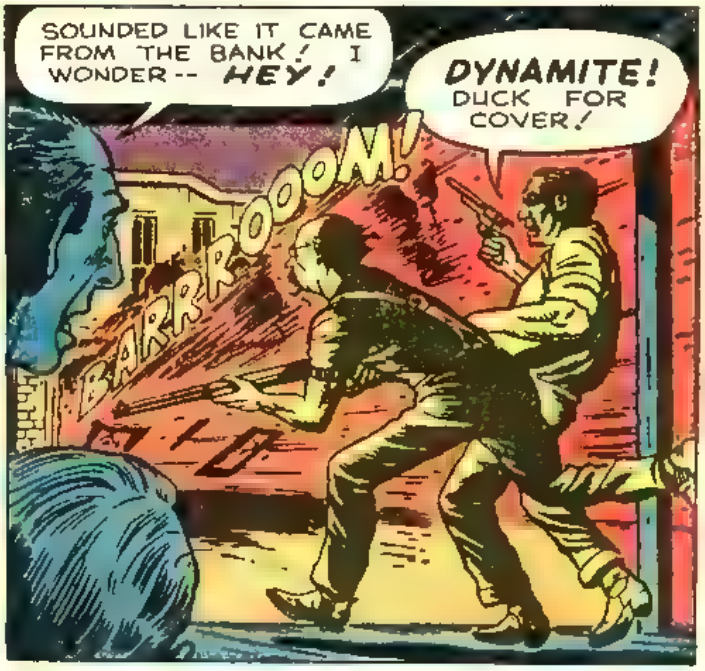
the BLACK MASK

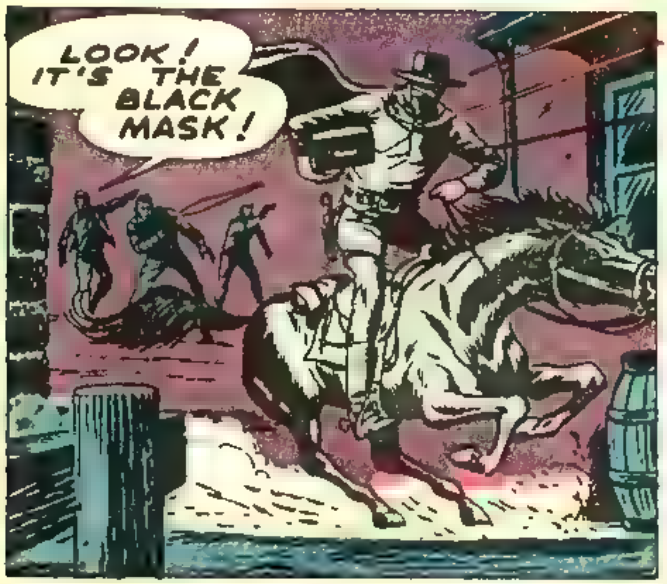

THERE'S THE BANK — NOT A SOUL AROUND! IT OUGHTTA BE A CINCH TO ROB!
BANK
by Stan Lee + DICK AYERS
ANOTHER CLASSIC* RE-TOLD BY MIGHTY MARVEL! *FROM KID COLT #106.


CRASH!

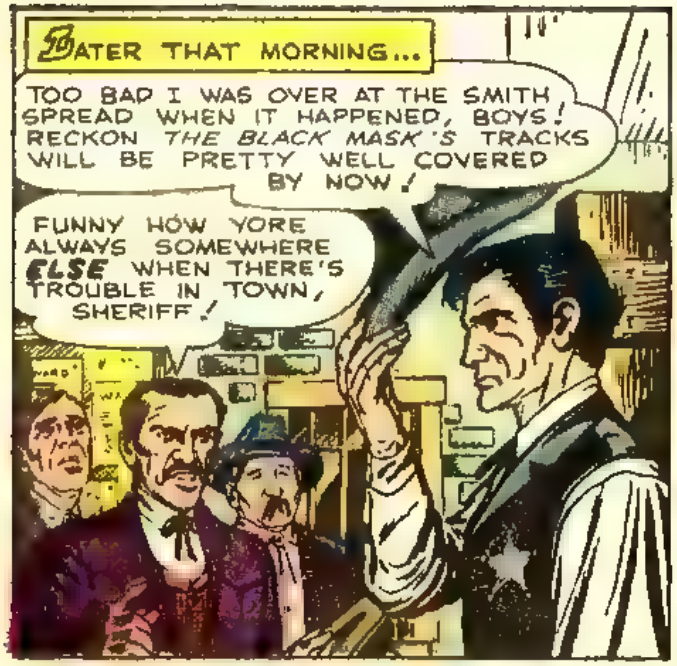
RECKON I'M REALLY DOIN' 'EM A FAVOR! WHEN THEY SEE HOW EASY THIS SAFE IS TO CRACK, THEY'LL BUY THEMSELVES A BIGGER ONE!

DID YOU HEAR A NOISE, JEB?
YEAH — SOUNDED LIKE GLASS BREAKING!

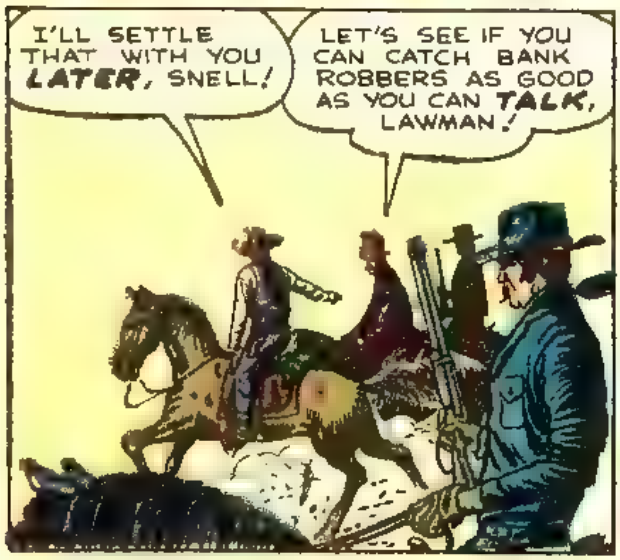

SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM THE BANK! I WONDER -- HEY!
DYNAMITE! DUCK FOR COVER!
BARRROOOM!

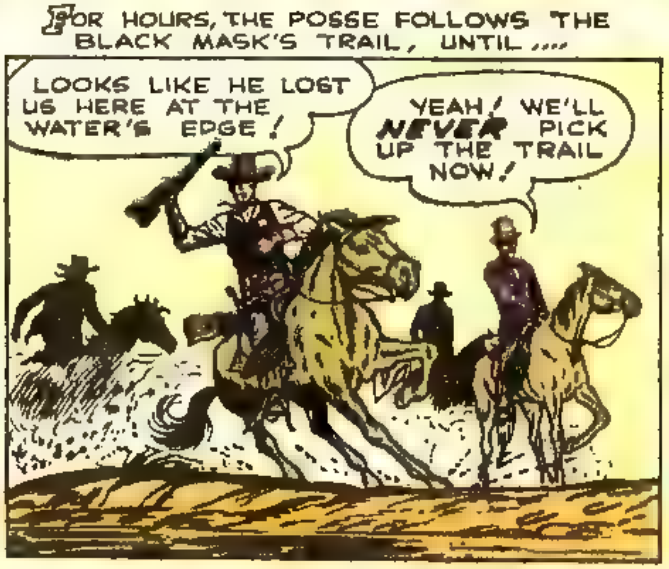

LOOK! IT'S THE BLACK MASK!

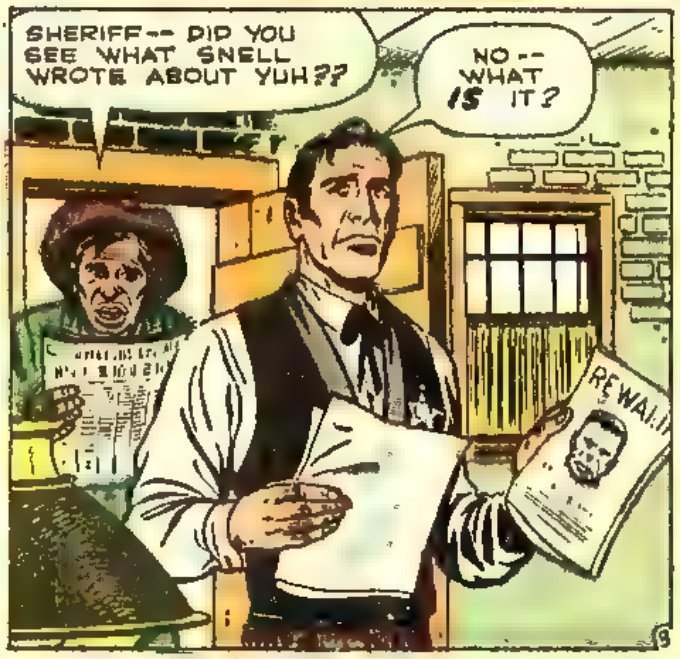
HE ROBBED THE BANK SINGLE-HANDED!
SOMEONE FETCH THE SHERIFF — PRONTO!


LATER THAT MORNING...
TOO BAD I WAS OVER AT THE SMITH SPREAD WHEN IT HAPPENED, BOYS! RECKON *THE BLACK MASK'S* TRACKS WILL BE PRETTY WELL COVERED BY NOW!
FUNNY HOW YORE ALWAYS SOMEWHERE **ELSE** WHEN THERE'S TROUBLE IN TOWN, SHERIFF!

WHAT DO YOU **MEAN** BY THAT, SNELL?
I MEAN THAT AS EDITOR OF THE TOWN PAPER, I SAY IT'S TIME WE GOT US A **NEW** SHERIFF!
COOL OFF, GENTS! WHILE WE'RE ARGUIN', THE BLACK MASK'S GETTIN' FURTHER AWAY WITH OUR MONEY!




FOR HOURS, THE POSSE FOLLOWS THE BLACK MASK'S TRAIL, UNTIL....
LOOKS LIKE HE LOST US HERE AT THE WATER'S EDGE!
YEAH! WE'LL **NEVER** PICK UP THE TRAIL NOW!



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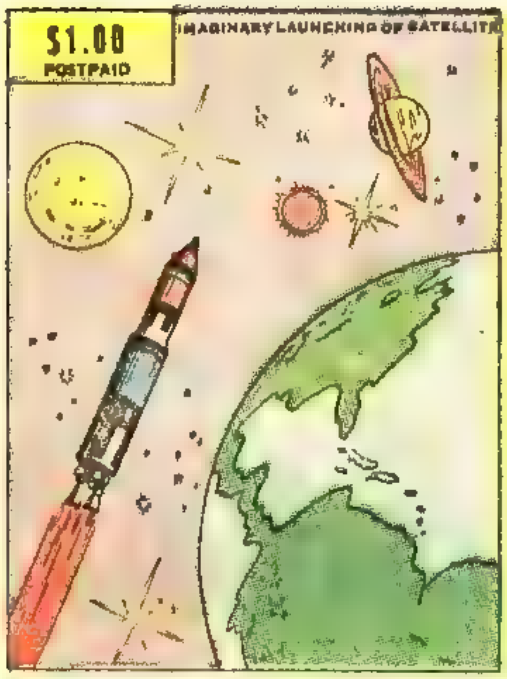

THE WHIRLING SATELLITE

LISTEN TO MYSTERIOUS AND

UNEARTHLY SOUNDS!

IT WHIZZES, ZOOMS and BOOMS

APPEARS AND DISAPPEARS!

THE AMAZING NEW ACTION TOY

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BASED ON A SCIENTIFIC **PRINCIPAL**

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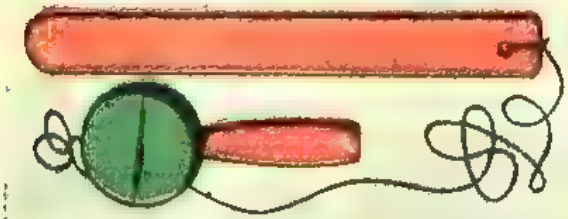

Actual size of Satellite 8". Pat. Pending

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TOY MANUFACTURERS
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MILLTOWN, N. J. 08850

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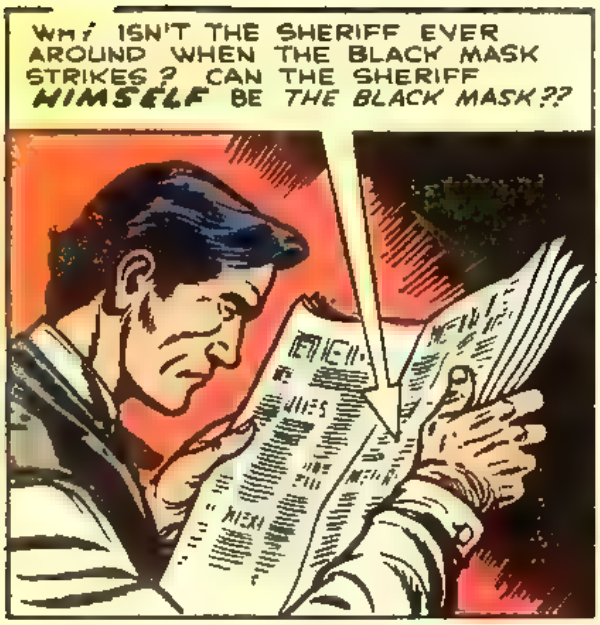
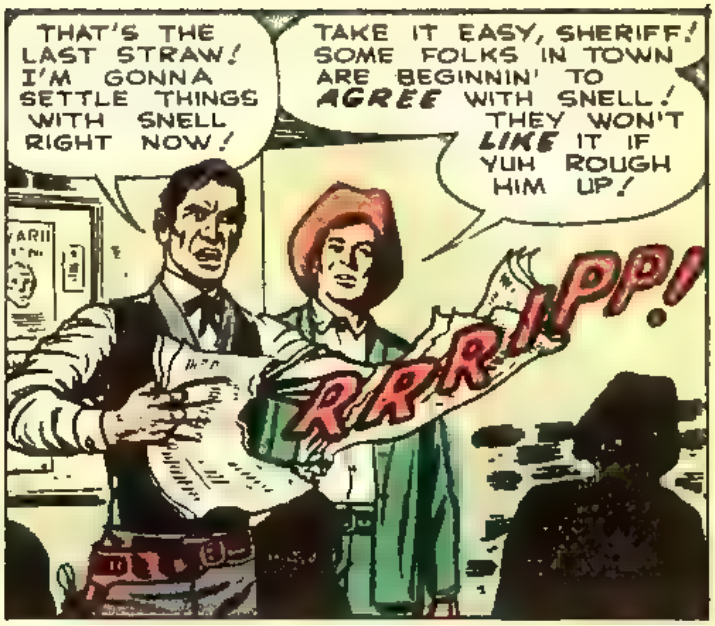
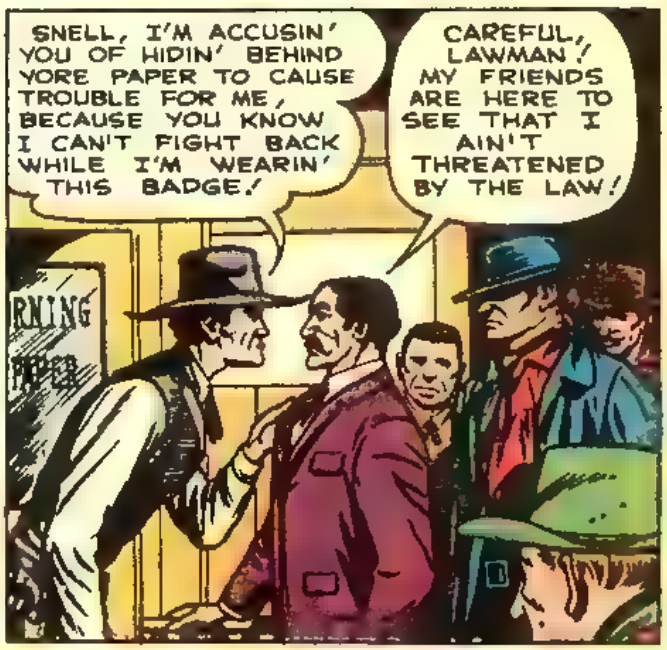
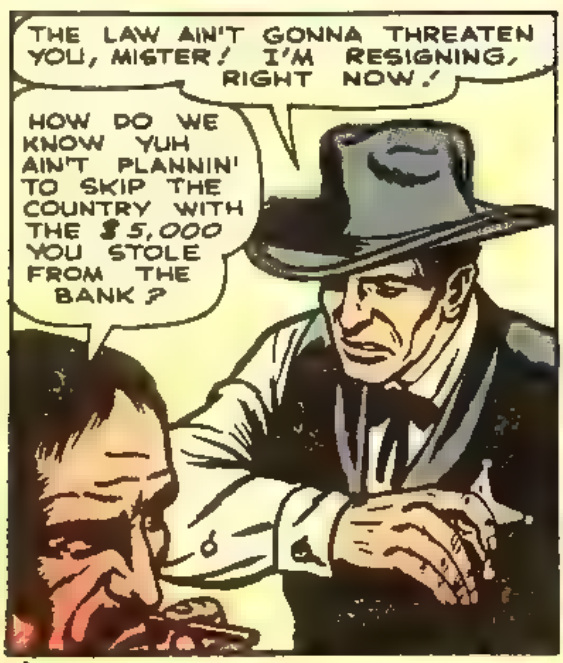

WHY ISN'T THE SHERIFF EVER AROUND WHEN THE BLACK MASK STRIKES? CAN THE SHERIFF *HIMSELF* BE *THE BLACK MASK??*


THAT'S THE LAST STRAW! I'M GONNA SETTLE THINGS WITH SNELL RIGHT NOW!
TAKE IT EASY, SHERIFF! SOME FOLKS IN TOWN ARE BEGINNIN' TO *AGREE* WITH SNELL! THEY WON'T *LIKE* IT IF YUH ROUGH HIM UP!
RRRIPP!

I NEVER ROUGHED ANYONE UP BEFORE, HOMBRE -- AND I DON'T AIM TO DO IT NOW!
I BETTER TAG ALONG!


SNELL, I'M ACCUSIN' YOU OF HIDIN' BEHIND YORE PAPER TO CAUSE TROUBLE FOR ME, BECAUSE YOU KNOW I CAN'T FIGHT BACK WHILE I'M WEARIN' THIS BADGE!
CAREFUL, LAWMAN! MY FRIENDS ARE HERE TO SEE THAT I AIN'T THREATENED BY THE LAW!


THE LAW AIN'T GONNA THREATEN YOU, MISTER! I'M RESIGNING, RIGHT NOW!
HOW DO WE KNOW YUH AIN'T PLANNIN' TO SKIP THE COUNTRY WITH THE $5,000 YOU STOLE FROM THE BANK?

WHY, YOU ----
EASY, AMIGO!

SNELL, I GAVE UP MY BADGE BECAUSE I THOUGHT MEBBE SOMEONE ELSE COULD DO A BETTER JOB OF CATCHIN' THE BLACK MASK! BUT I WAS WRONG! I ALREADY CAUGHT HIM!
WHAT IN SAM HILL ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT??
I'M TALKIN' ABOUT THE ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD WHO COULD HAVE KNOWN EXACTLY HOW MUCH MONEY WAS STOLEN... THE BLACK MASK HIMSELF--
YOU, SNELL!
ALL RIGHT, NOBODY MOVE! I ALMOST GOT AWAY WITH IT UNTIL I TALKED TOO MUCH-- BUT YOU'LL STILL NEVER GIT ME!
YOU'RE WRONG, HOMBRE! I'M TAKIN' YOU IN---
DID YOU SEE THAT?? THE SHERIFF BEAT A COLD-STACKED DRAW!
RECKON WE ALL OWE YUH AN APOLOGY, FOR EVEN LISTENIN' TO SNELL! HERE'S YORE BADGE BACK— WE SHORE HOPE YOU'LL TAKE IT!
ONE THING ABOUT A BADGE— ONCE A MAN'S GOT INTO THE HABIT OF WEARIN' IT-- IT'S A MIGHTY HARD HABIT TO BREAK!
THE END

NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS ON THE NEXT PAGE...

LAST CHANCE!

(UNTIL NEXT ISSUE!) TO LATCH ONTO ONE OF THE GREATEST, GROOVIEST, GINCHIEST MAIL-ORDER GIZMOS WE'VE EVER OFFERED! (MOSTLY BECAUSE THEY'RE THE ONLY ONES WE'VE EVER OFFERED!)

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625 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK NY 10022

PLEASE SEND ____ SPIDER-MAN PIN-UPS AT $1.99 EACH (ADD 15¢ PER PIN-UP FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.) I HAVE ENCLOSED ____

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ADDRESS ____

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$1.00 EA.

PLUS 15¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.

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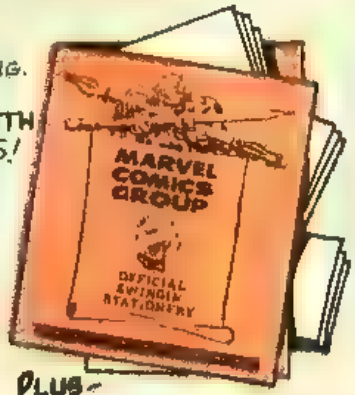

PLUS— THEIR AUTOGRAPHS!

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PLEASE SEND ____ STATIONERY KITS AT $1.00 EACH. (ADD 15¢ PER KIT FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.) I HAVE ENCLOSED ____

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SUPER-HERO T-SHIRT!

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IN FULL COLOR!

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PLEASE SEND ____ SGT. FURY T-SHIRTS AT $1.50 EACH (ADD 15¢ PER SHIRT FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING)

CHECK SIZE: ADULT ☐ SMALL ☐ MEDIUM ☐ LARGE
YOUTH ☐ SMALL ☐ MEDIUM ☐ LARGE

NAME ____

ADDRESS ____

CITY ____ ZIP ____ STATE ____

WE TOLD YOU WE'D HAVE A NEW AD FOR THIS ISH! THE ONLY THING WE FORGOT TO MENTION WAS THAT IT WOULD FEATURE THE SAME OL GOODIES! AND HERES THE MIGHTY MARVEL MASTERPIECE THAT'S BECOME A NATIONWIDE SENSATION --- (MEANING: SAM NATIONWIDE THINKS IT'S SENSATIONAL!)

INCREDIBLE HULK SWEAT SHIRT!

Only $2.98 EA.

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IT'S COLORFUL!
IT'S ILLUSTRATED ON THE *FRONT* AND *BACK*!
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PLEASE SEND ____ HULK SWEAT SHIRT(S) AT $2.98 EACH (ADD 25¢ PER SHIRT FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING.)
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PLEASE ALLOW AT LEAST 3 TO 4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

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Hi Gang! Let's face it, I'm a Marvel Mad-man too! Here's my hard-earned buck! Rush all your nutty gizmos to . . .

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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ZIP _____ AGE _____

School, College or Occupation:

KID COLT'S ROUNDUP

THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan and Jack,

I've just read my first KID COLT comic and it's great! Good luck to all the men and women who work for the Marvel Comics Group! Jackie Banks

Albany, Ga.

You're a man of mighty few words, Jackie, but what you *did* say was pure music to us! Gracias, amigo, and the same to you!

Dear Stan and Jack,

KID COLT #127 was the best issue you've ever let loose from the Marvel corral! The foes the Kid fought were excellent, especially the Fat Man! The way he handled his boomerang was fantastic. How about featuring the origins of the Fat Man, Iron Mask, Bennington Brown, and Doc Danger in an annual? Keep up the great work!

Mark Campbell, 1508 Rossman S.E.
Grand Rapids, Mich.

We can't rightly say *what* the annual situation is right now, pard! We'd sure *like* to put out a Kid Colt annual, though, and as soon as we can say one way or the other, we'll let you hombres know in these pages!

Dear Stan and Jack,

KID COLT is my favorite western magazine. Since I have been reading Marvel mags, KID COLT #121 was the greatest ever! One thing I'd like to mention about KID COLT #121—Rawhide did the last bit of action, setting the trap for Iron Mask. I think that Kid Colt should get rid of this menace. After all, it *was* his mag. I would like to see Kid Colt meet Rawhide in a future issue once again!

Ramroop Boodran, Little Cora Rd.
Trinidad, W. I.

Seems mighty likely to us that you'll get your wish, amigo! Since both Kids just can't seem to stay off the trouble trail, it figures that every now and then they'll get into the *same* mess! By the way, if you get the chance, you might say "howdy" to the other West Indies action addicts for us!

Dear Stan and Jack,

I just finished KID COLT, OUTLAW #127 and couldn't wait until I had dashed off a letter to you. At last—*my* kind of western! Instead of just a 17-page free-for-all with a bunch of cowboys and owl-hoots shouting at each other, you had an honest-to-Irving Forbush plot. The idea of a town in which nobody was allowed to wear guns really moved me, too. But wouldn't you know the Kid would manage to find one anyway! It's too bad he didn't get his pardon—too bad for *him,* anyway! It's a good thing for us readers, though. After all, if he was pardoned, you'd have to call the book KID COLT, EX-OUTLAW, and this would be extremely confusing.

Albert Tindall, 7474 St. Charles Rock Rd.
St. Louis, Mo.

Only problem with that "ex-outlaw" business, Al, is that it might start a dad-burned trend! First thing you know, folks would want us to put out titles like THOR, THE EX-GOD OF THUNDER, or THE USED-TO-BE-AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, or even the FORMERLY FANTASTIC FOUR. Then, pretty soon, we'd be calling ourselves the *ex*-comic book writers!

Dear Stan and Jack,

"Wow!" KID COLT #127 was great! The meeting between the Fat Man, Doc Danger, and Bennington Brown was terrific. I would like to see Kid Colt, the Two-Gun Kid and the Rawhide Kid meet in one story.

James Lonsdale, 38 Earl St.
Cabalt, Ont., Canada

The three Kids in one issue, huh? Not a bad idea, Jimmy! Only thing is, we'd have to get Stan, Larry, Jack, Dick, and mebbe that Irving Forbush ranny together to plot it, and we figure they'd go plumb loco before they agreed on a story line!

Dear Stan and Jack,

I've just read KID COLT, OUTLAW #127, and it's just fab! Jack's doing better than ever in this new Marvel Age of Comics. Fat Man, Doc Danger, Bennington Brown, and Iron Mask make a great team. Why not have Two-Gun, Rawhide, and Kid Colt join to fight these guys?

Brian Jones, 9 Chestnut St.
Medway, Mass.

Well now, Brian, it appears that ALL you fans want the Kids to join up! Do you rannies think our gun-slingers are *lonesome*, or what? But, you never can tell! Like we mentioned before, anything can happen in a Marvel mag, and it usually does!

I have done it for millions. **HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS, LABORERS & EXECUTIVES, DOCTORS, LAWYERS & TEACHERS**

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How to be A SUCCESS AT EVERYTHING! etc.

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BEFORE Mailing Coupon I was a 125 lb. 6 ft. skinny weakling

says JOHN SILL

I added 7 inches to MY CHEST, 3½ INCHES to EACH ARM. No, Pal! You don't have to be a chicken-chested skinny weakling like I was only a few weeks ago.

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"I LOST 30 LBS. OF DANGEROUS **UGLY FAT** 4 INCHES OFF MY **WAIST!"**
says Felipe Mendoza

Which of these **2 ME'S is YOU?**

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No! I don't care how fat and flabby you are. All I want is minutes a day in your home to make you over by the same method.

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Sincerely Yours, Ben Rebhuhn

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Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

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